

ACTION GROUP

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August 8, 2001

Senator Patrick Leahy, Chair Senate Judiciary Committee 433 Russell Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Leahy:

We are writing to you to urge you to vigorously oppose the nomination of judges to the federal courts of appeal who would work to weaken or even eliminate basic rights of women, African Americans and homosexuals.

Fully half of the 18 nominees Governor Bush has announced have records that clearly indicate their disdain for women's right and for civil rights. We urge you to fight for the principles and values we share as progressives. Please help defeat the nominations of the judges listed below (attached is a brief record of each nominee):

- Terrence Boyle
- Patricia Cook
- Carolyn B. Kuhl
- Michael W. McConnell
- Pricilla Owen
- John G. Roberts
- Lavenski R. Smith
- Jeffrey S. Sutton
- Timothy M. Tymkovich

Thank you for your tireless efforts to oppose the radically conservative Bush agenda. Please help keep the courts a place where the wealthy and privileged can be held accountable for their exploitations. Defeat these nominees!

Thank you,

Pam Godbout Women's Coordinator

and members of the Gender Justice Action Group

Gender Justice Action Group

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Valerie Birk Burs A Feldt

# Terrence Boyle, 4th Judicial District (North Carolina)

- Ruled against African American and for whites in 2 voting rights cases. Both cases were reversed on appeal
- Ruled against women in a Title VII sex discrimination case. This case was also reversed on appeal

#### Patricia Cook, 6th Judicial District (Ohio)

- Was endorsed by the Ohio Right to Life organization in her last election
- Voted against equalizing funding for Ohio public schools

#### Carolyn B. Kuhl, 9th Judicial District (California)

- Signed on to a brief urging the overrule of Roe v. Wade
  Argued in favor of a domestic gag rule
  Supported tax exempt status for Bob Jones University

# Michael W. McConnell, 10th Judicial District (Utah) Signed statement 1111

- Signed statement called for overrule of Roe v. Wade
- Represented the Boy Scouts in their effort to remove a gay scout master

#### Pricilla Owen, 5th Judicial District (Texas)

- Voted to narrow and eliminate buffer zones around a group of Texas abortion clinics
- · Has consistently voted against minors trying to use the judicial bypass provision of Texas' parental notification requirement

#### John G. Roberts, DC Judicial District (Washington, DC)

- Signed a brief urging that Roe v. Wade be overturned
- Argued against affirmative action for federal contractors
- Argued that abortion providers were not protected by civil rights law

### Lavenski R. Smith, 8th Judicial District (Arkansas)

- Argued against Arkansas public hospitals providing abortions
   Accepted money from anti-abortion PAC

- <u>Jeffrey S. Sutton, 6<sup>th</sup> Judicial District (Ohio)</u>

   Argued against the Americans with Disabilities Act applying to states
  - Argued against the ADEA applying to states
  - Argued against provision of the Violence Against Women Act that allowed women to sue their attackers in federal court
  - Argued against private right of action for civil rights laws

# Timothy M. Tymkovich, 10th Judicial District (Colorado)

If favor of Amendment 2 to the Colorado Constitution which would ban local laws prohibiting discrimination against homosexuals